

“What began as a so-called miracle, groundbreaking technology, meant for practicality and convenience, quickly became one of the most pressing environmental and public health concerns in the modern world.”

~ Michael Regan, EPA Administrator, on PFAS, March 2023



**ARTICLE 12
MELOFCHIK SUBSTITUTE MOTION**

The Melofchik Substitute Motion would:

- 1. ESTABLISH A STUDY COMMITTEE**
- 2. PAUSE ANY NEW ARTIFICIAL TURF
UNTIL A REPORT IS SUBMITTED**

NO LATER THAN SPRING, 2025

BUT MAYBE SOONER!

Crumb Rubber is Dangerous

- polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs)
- metals (like lead, cadmium, etc.)
- volatile organic compounds (VOCs)
- plasticizers
- carbon black
- styrene (neurotoxic)
- butadiene (carcinogen)
- flame retardants
- even many of the newer “natural” infill materials, including BrockFILL, contain toxins

PFAS in Plastic Grass

Public Employees for
Environmental Responsibility

- In 2019, PEER discovered that artificial turf contains per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS)
- Nicknamed “forever chemicals”
- PFAS are persistent, they bioaccumulate, they are toxic
- All artificial turf that have been studied have PFAS

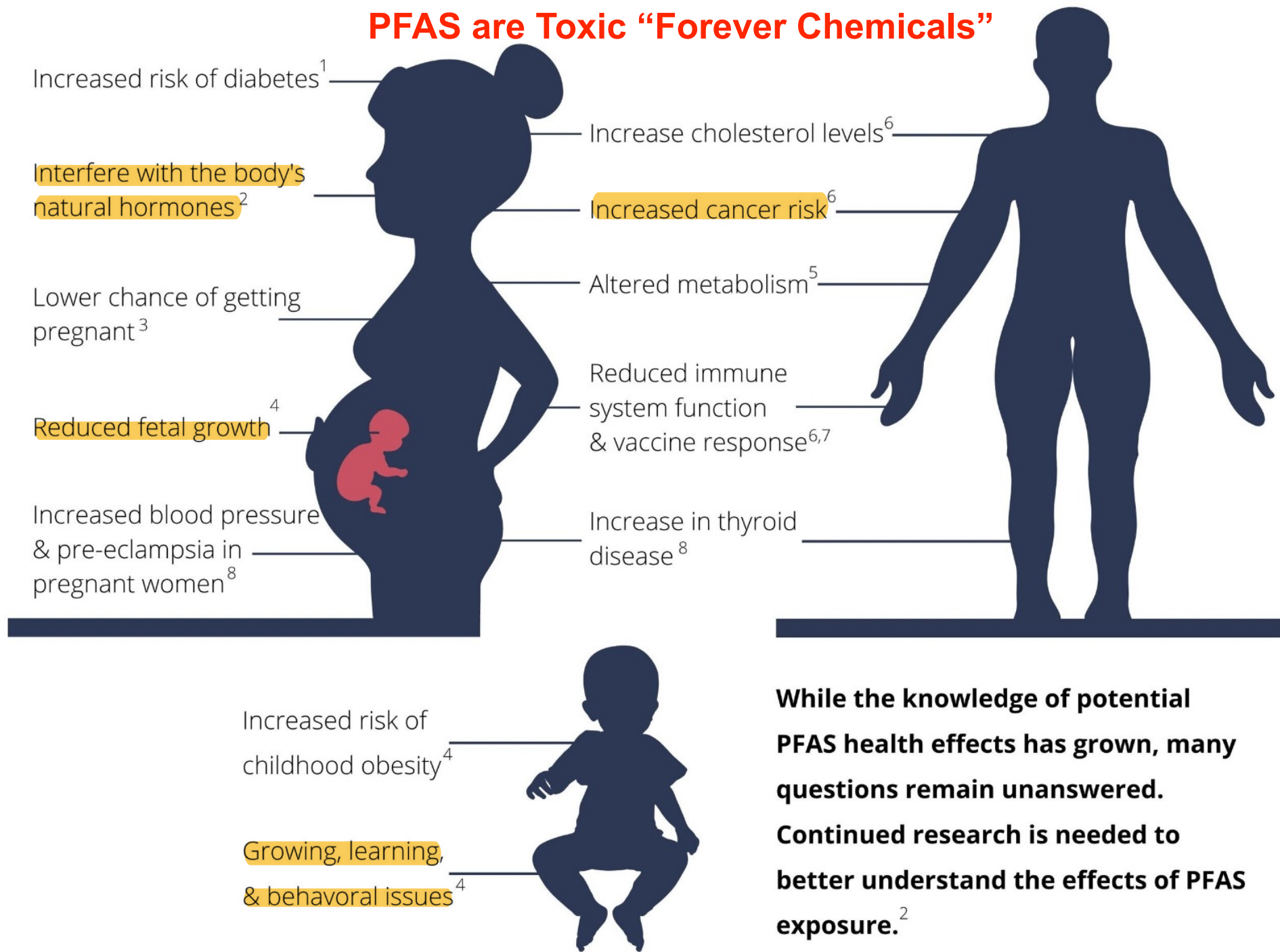
Plastic turf causes local plastic pollution



A 20-ton plastic field can shed 480 lbs of micro-plastics each year.

These plastic particles: don't fully degrade; accumulate in the environment, soil, and water; and enter the food chain.

PFAS are Toxic “Forever Chemicals”



While the knowledge of potential PFAS health effects has grown, many questions remain unanswered. Continued research is needed to better understand the effects of PFAS exposure.²

“No safe level” of PFAS

Maximum Contaminant Level

- EPA proposed MCLs in March 2023 4 ppt for PFAS

That's equivalent to a drop of water in an olympic-sized pool

- “...there is no dose below which PFAS is considered safe

PFAS leaches off artificial turf fields into water

From wetlands, streams, rivers, oceans, into the foodchain

- water around artificial turf
quickly becomes contaminated
- In Martha's Vineyard, a study shows that 12 ppt of PFAS
leaches off a new field

Artificial Turf Contributes to Climate Change

- natural grass absorbs CO² and releases oxygen
- artificial turf does the opposite (releases CO², methane, other chemicals)
- manufacturing, installation, service and disposal of a 2-acre artificial turf field generates a total of 55.6 metric tons of CO²

Artificial turf sheds microplastics

- 218 kg/year (480 pounds/year)



Artificial turf is *not* recycled in the US

- The Pennsylvania Re-Match recycling facility has not been built, and is being fined
- Exxon's Texas "advance recycling" plant uses pyrolysis
Considered incineration by the EPA, it releases PFAS into the air.
- There is NO recycling of artificial turf


Plastic turf is a disposal nightmare



Rolls of discarded plastic turf in PA

Plastic turf is not recyclable. It lasts forever, leaching PFAS and other toxic chemicals into the environment.

PFAS is the new Asbestos

- EPA's new **MCLs** will open the door to huge liabilities

Maximum Contaminant Level
- States are making even more stringent MCLs
- Class action suits for contaminated water abound

States are trying to ban artificial turf

- Bills pending in:
 - California
 - Massachusetts
 - Vermont
 - Connecticut

**Vote YES on the Melofchik Sub Motion
to**

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